



JOHN SCOTTUS SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Homework Policy

John Scottus Secondary School

John Scottus School offers a vision of education which gives young people the self mastery, strength of character and compassion to contribute meaningfully to the world around them whilst at the same time fulfilling their own unique set of talents and qualities.

It is an education based on the belief that each child can come to discover their innate gifts, that each child can come to contribute something exceptional and that each child has at their heart a limitless potential.

Central to the ethos of the school is the development of character. Character building is described as the development of good habits such as the ability to be still and self-aware, to attend to the present moment, to participate in the spirit of enquiry and to unite with others around. These habits of attention, enquiry, stillness and unity will provide the foundations for academic excellence, a life of meaningful purpose and a life journey of Self-Discovery.

Mindfulness along with philosophy and meditation are considered the three key aspects in the journey of character building and the development of these habits. The mindful motto of the school is "Delight in the present" and the belief is that when a child comes to know their true Self it is possible to delight in the present every moment of every day.

1. Introduction:

As a student, your primary activity is learning.

Learning is not something that simply happens after you read, write and listen long enough. Learning occurs when you follow a particular set of organised procedures. Students who follow the procedures listed below will discover that their capacity to understand and remember material covered in classes will become greatly enhanced. In addition, their ability to apply this knowledge and to place it into a larger conceptual structure will also improve.

2. The Purpose of Homework

- To foster independent and self directed learning.
- To develop good reading skills.
- To promote lifelong learning.
- To enable students to take responsibility for their own learning.

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- Opportunity for parents to be able to monitor their child's academic progress.
- To consolidate, revise and further explore class lessons.
- To develop habits of sound personal organisational skills.
- To give further practice in areas that may require rote learning.
- To develop a high level of self-discipline.

3. Frequency

Students are given written and/or oral homework in at least three subjects per night.

Year level	Approximate hours
1 st Year	1.5 hours
2 nd Year	1.75 hours
3 rd Year	2.0 hours + study time
4 th Year	1 hour-variable + projects
5 th Year	2.5 hours + study
6 th Year	3.0 hours + study

Recommended time to be spent on homework

4. Homework rules and Guidelines

- Homework written on homework board daily by teacher.
- All students are responsible for recording homework each day in their student diary.
- Homework to be completed and handed in on time.
- In cases where a student misses classes it is the student's responsibility to get H/W and complete where reasonable.
- Homework writing is to be neat, legible and completed in the correct format.
- Feedback on homework is to be reviewed by the student and responded to where necessary.
- Self correcting of homework is very useful when answers provided.
- No homework or incomplete homework will result in homework detention on the same or subsequent day.

5. Parent's responsibility

- Parents to be aware of allocated homework and see it is completed properly.
- Any difficulties with homework to be communicated to the relevant teacher via the homework diary or email.
- Significant issues can be raised with the class teacher via student diary/email/office.

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6. Homework recommendations

- Study in a quiet and appropriate space.
- Use devices responsibly, e.g. no social media or texting.
- Seek help from parents, siblings and friends if needed.
- Read over homework to ensure it is up to the required standard.

7. After school study

To assist students with their homework and exam preparation, the school runs a after school study throughout the year. Students are also encouraged to attend seminars on Study Skills.

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